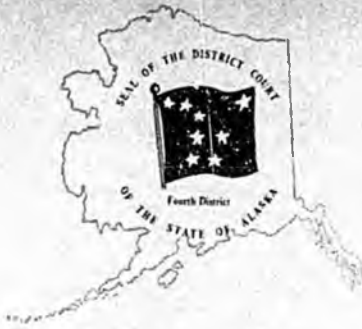


HB

302

*Members files*



District Court

State of Alaska

FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

604 BARNETTE STREET

FAIRBANKS, ALASKA

99701

CHAMBERS OF  
MARY ALICE MILLER, JUDGE

April 12, 1977

Honorable Steve Cowper, Representative  
House of Representatives  
Pouch V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Re: HB 302 - prohibiting attorneys in small claims

Dear Steve:

Please do what you can to defeat this bill.

As the law now stands, the quasi-experts in the collection field are restrained somewhat by the requirement that they be represented by counsel. This bill would permit them to conduct their litigation without the ethical considerations which are binding on attorneys.

When the small claims rules were adopted, there was serious consideration given to forbidding collections agencies and corporations from using small claims procedures at all, because of the potential for abuse of the individual litigant who is unskilled in courtroom maneuvering. There were howls of outrage by the collection industry (all of whom, however, used attorneys except O'Neill) and Rule 15 is the compromise resulting from their howls.

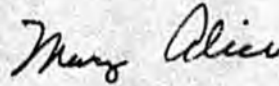
Please do not let Alaska law move backward towards

Honorable Steve Cowper  
April 12, 1977  
Page 2

abuse of the people for whom small claims procedures were  
designed.

Thanks.

Sincerely yours,



Mary Alice Miller  
District Court Judge

MAM/ek